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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR. 3 NOV 51

SUBJECT Details of the Balkan Factory
in Plovdiv

NO. OF PAGES 2

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GRADING OF SOURCE

1. The Balkan Factory in Plovdiv is now controlled by the DIP, Durzhavno Industriialno Predpriyatie, (Government Industrial Enterprise). It was formerly owned by the Tsankov brothers of Plovdiv.
2. The factory employs about 700 workers and 40 clerks plus the technical personnel, engineers, and supervisors.
3. There are ten divisions in the factory producing various items as follows:
 - a. Stove Division - produces three types of stoves:
 - (1) "Zhaba" - small heating stove
 - (2) "Balkan" - kitchen range
 - (3) "Talkan" - large heating stove.
 - b. Nail Division - produces all types of nails ranging in size from four to twenty centimeters long.
 - c. Foundry Division - produces washbowls, water pipe fixtures, irons and similar articles.
 - d. Enamel Division - enamels products from the Foundry Division.
 - e. Pipe Division - produces water pipes ranging in size from one-half to two and one-half centimeters in diameter.
 - f. Metal Stamping Division - produces chains, safety pins and staples for stapling machines.
 - g. Oxygen Division - furnishes and produces the oxygen used in the machinery in the Pipe Division.
 - h. Lathes Division - repairs broken machinery or instruments of the other divisions.
 - i. Wire Division - produces barbed wire exclusively.
 - j. Galvanizing Division - galvanizes all wire produced by the Wire Division.

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25X1A

- 2 -

4. The Pipe Division is required to fill a 100-ton monthly quota. It has never been able to produce this amount because of the lack of materials.
5. The Stove Division has a quota of 150 stoves to be assembled monthly by each worker.
6. The Galvanizing Division requires each pair of workers to galvanize one ton of wire per eight-hour shift.
7. Every worker in the plant must produce a daily norm based on the material used, the speed of the machinery and the production requirements levied on the factory.
8. A new pay system was put into effect in May 1951, under which a worker receives his full daily pay only if he produces his norm. In the event the factory does not have material available to work with, the worker receives only 80 percent of his daily pay. In the event the factory turns out a faulty product the laborers working on it receive a 20 percent deduction in pay to cover the factory losses when the material is faulty or of very low quality. In the event the faulty production is entirely because of the worker, he is fined or imprisoned for "sabotage and working against the government".
9. The factory is guarded by eight factory guards who wear a light grey uniform and Stalinka type (sic) cap. They are armed with carbines. The guards maintain a permanent post at the main entrance to the factory and during the night have two roving patrols of one man each circulating around the factory yards. All persons working in the plant are searched upon leaving to detect theft of any material or instruments. Only authorized persons with a pass are allowed to enter the plant area.
10. The factory works day and night on three shifts. The workers have one day off a week on Wednesday.
11. Foremen and supervisors are chosen from among staunch Party members only. An exceptionally good worker, or a worker who is capable of directing others, stands no chance of improving himself unless he joins and rises to a trusted position in the Communist Party.

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